

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1294

Introduced by Assembly Member Furutani

February 18, 2011

~~An act to amend Section 10721 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to health care. An act to add and repeal Section 3054.5 of the Penal Code, relating to parole.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1294, as amended, Furutani. ~~Medi-Cal~~. *Rebuilding Communities and Rebuilding Lives Act of 2011.*

Existing law, until January 1, 2011, required the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish a pilot program in Alameda County for parolees returning to Alameda County to conduct needs-based assessments of the individual parolees, as specified.

This bill would require the department, subject to an appropriation of funds, to establish reentry programs for parolees between 16 and 23 years of age to assist in community reintegration upon release, parole, or discharge from detention, as specified. The reentry programs would include construction training, academic services, counseling, and tracking of graduates after completion of the program. The bill would require the department to maintain statistical information related to the reentry programs, as specified. The bill would also provide that these provisions would be repealed on January 1, 2015.

~~Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal~~

~~Medicaid Program provisions. Existing law requires the Director of Health Care Services to perform any other duties as may be prescribed by law and to observe and report to the Secretary of California Health and Human Services and the Governor on the condition of health care services and medical assistance throughout the state.~~

~~This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 3054.5 is added to the Penal Code, to
2 read:

3 3054.5. (a) This section shall be known as the Rebuilding
4 Communities and Rebuilding Lives Act of 2011.

5 (1) The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, to the
6 extent funds are appropriated for the purpose of this section, shall
7 establish a reentry program specifically targeting offenders who
8 will be between 16 and 23 years of age upon their release, parole,
9 or discharge from a facility or program operated by the department
10 or a county. The department, through the Division of Juvenile
11 Facilities, shall preenroll eligible youths into eligible community
12 programs, as defined in this section. The department, through the
13 Division of Juvenile Facilities, additionally shall work with
14 counties to facilitate the preenrollment of eligible youth from
15 county detention facilities into eligible community programs, as
16 defined in this section. Priority shall be given to programs that
17 have existed for at least one year prior to the effective date of this
18 section and to those eligible community programs that have
19 operated at any time in the previous three years.

20 (2) Beginning January 1, 2012, the department shall identify
21 each youth who meets the eligibility requirements of this section
22 and is scheduled to be released, paroled, or discharged from a
23 facility or program operated by the Division of Juvenile Facilities
24 no later than December 31, 2012. No less than 45 days prior to
25 the scheduled release, parole, or discharge date of an eligible
26 youth, the department, in coordination with the Director of
27 Employment Development and the appropriate eligible community
28 program, shall enroll a youth in any eligible program located in

1 a city no more than 60 miles from his or her last known address,
2 or intended release city. Participation of an eligible youth in any
3 eligible community program shall commence no later than 72
4 hours after release, parole, or discharge from a facility operated
5 by the department. Enrollment and participation are subject to the
6 approval of each program.

7 (b) For purposes of this section, an “eligible community
8 program” means, at a minimum, a program that provides all of
9 the following:

10 (1) Integrated education and job training services and activities
11 on an equally divided basis, with 50 percent of participants’ time
12 spent in classroom-based instruction, counseling, and leadership
13 development instruction, and 50 percent of participants’ time spent
14 in experiential job training.

15 (A) The education component described in this paragraph shall
16 include basic skills instruction, secondary education services, and
17 other activities designed to lead to the attainment of a high school
18 diploma or its equivalent. The curriculum for this component shall
19 include math, language arts, vocational education, life skills
20 training, social studies related to the cultural and community
21 history of the participants, and leadership skills.

22 (B) Bilingual services shall be available for individuals with
23 limited English proficiency, and an English learning curriculum
24 shall be provided where feasible and appropriate.

25 (C) A program shall have a goal of a minimum
26 teacher-to-student ratio of one teacher for every 18 students.

27 (D) The job training component described in paragraph (1)
28 shall involve work experience and skills training apprenticeships
29 related to construction and rehabilitation activities described in
30 paragraph (4).

31 (2) Assistance in attaining postsecondary education and in
32 obtaining financial aid shall be made available to participants
33 prior to graduation from the program.

34 (3) Counseling services designed to assist participants in
35 positively participating in society, including all of the following,
36 as necessary:

37 (A) Outreach, assessment, and orientation.

38 (B) Individual and peer counseling.

39 (C) Life skills training.

40 (D) Drug and alcohol abuse education and prevention.

1 (E) Referral to appropriate drug rehabilitation, medical, mental
2 health, legal, housing, and other community services and resources.
3 A program shall have a goal of a minimum
4 counselor-to-participant ratio of one counselor for every 28
5 participants.

6 (4) Acquisition, rehabilitation, acquisition and rehabilitation,
7 or construction of housing and related facilities to be used for the
8 purpose of providing home ownership for disadvantaged persons,
9 residential housing for homeless individuals and very low income
10 families, or transitional housing for persons who are homeless,
11 ill, deinstitutionalized, or who have disabilities or special needs.

12 (5) Leadership development training that provides participants
13 with meaningful opportunities to develop leadership skills,
14 including decisionmaking, problem solving, and negotiating. A
15 program shall encourage participants to develop strong peer group
16 ties that support their mutual pursuit of skills and values.

17 (c) Each eligible community program shall work cooperatively
18 with local probation and parole offices to ensure appropriate
19 oversight of any eligible youth who enrolls and participates in the
20 program for the duration of the eligible youth's participation and
21 term of probation or parole. Eligible community programs shall
22 meet the requirements described in Article 4 (commencing with
23 Section 9800) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 3 of the
24 Unemployment Insurance Code.

25 (d) For purposes of this section, an "eligible youth" means a
26 person between 16 and 23 years of age, who is economically
27 disadvantaged, as defined in Section 12511 of Title 42 of the United
28 States Code, and who is under the custody and control of the
29 Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation or a county on or
30 after January 1, 2012, and whose release, parole, or departure
31 date is scheduled for any date prior to January 1, 2015.

32 (e) No more than 200 eligible youths shall be enrolled pursuant
33 to this section. Priority for enrollment shall be given to eligible
34 youths who the department has determined are gang affiliated, or
35 who have an immediate family member who has been identified
36 as gang affiliated.

37 (f) The department shall maintain statistical information on the
38 success of this program, including, but not limited to, the number
39 of eligible youths served and the rate of return to prison for those
40 eligible youths who enroll and participate in an eligible community

1 *program. This information shall be provided to the Legislature*
2 *upon request.*

3 *(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2015,*
4 *and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that*
5 *is enacted before January 1, 2015, deletes or extends that date.*

6 ~~SECTION 1. Section 10721 of the Welfare and Institutions~~
7 ~~Code is amended to read:~~

8 ~~10721. The director shall administer Chapter 7 (commencing~~
9 ~~with Section 14000) and Chapter 8 (commencing with Section~~
10 ~~14200) of Part 3 of this division and any other law pertaining to~~
11 ~~the administration of health care services and medical assistance.~~
12 ~~The director shall perform any other duties as may be prescribed~~
13 ~~by law and shall observe and report to the Secretary of California~~
14 ~~Health and Human Services and the Governor on the condition of~~
15 ~~health care services and medical assistance throughout the state~~